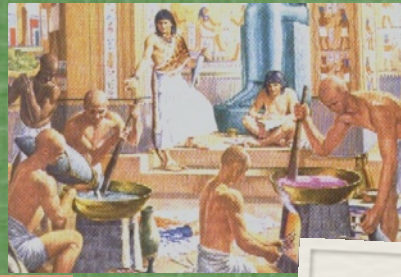


# Egyptian Medicine

JANUARY 2010

HUMANITIES

CAITLIN AND BRIE



## CHEAT SHEET

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### Diseases

Everyday complaints of upset stomachs, headaches and bowel troubles were mostly untreated. There remedies to treating plaguing sickness, from common colds, to leprosy were healed by simple medicines and spells. Sickness inherited from animals, like Trichinae, parasitic worms and tuberculosis were common among the Egyptians. Although leprosy, thought to have originated in Egypt, was not very common, as those who caught tuberculosis inherited an immunity to it. Trade and Migration was a large factor in the spread of sickness and disease. Silicosis, the result of breathing in airborne sand particles was common in the dry hot lands of Egypt, along with pneumonia. Malignant tumors where almost equivalent in frequency as they are here, in present day. The hard repetitive labour caused many people to suffer from bone and joint damage, and those subjected to it, only lived a few years after. Those lucky to live long lives, were prone to Cardio-Vascular diseases, Arthritis and Dementia. Congenital

diseases were not uncommon and brought early death for many. Especially infants. Inbreeding was frequent among Egyptians and the occurrence of a sixth finger or toe, has been seen a number of times in Mummified bodies. In a country that flooded every year, it was not hard to contract Bilharziasis, Anaemia, female infertility, low immune systems and subsequent death. Malaria, trachoma and even outbreaks of the bubonic plague were widespread. Small pox, measles and cholera were easy to get as egypt was very densely populated.

### Effectiveness of Egyptian Medicine

The effectiveness of herbal, magical and surgical medicine was not as good as present day, yet many remedies are used as present day medicines. they had more than a basic understanding of the human bodily functions. and rather advanced for their time, information on organs, the brain and the heart. as they were one of the few cultures to keep as many records and information on it. their tight ties to religion affected it greatly as the remedies created were not to heal the patient, but to drive the evil spirits out, which they believed was the cause of sickness and disease. spells and incantations were fused in every basic remedy.